

PETER C. HARVEY  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY

FILED

SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

By: Sandra Y. Dick  
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

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IN THE MATTER OF:

ARUNAS AZELIS, M.D.  
LICENSE # MA05319200

: ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

:  
: CONSENT ORDER

LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND :  
SURGERY IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY:  
:

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This matter **was** opened to the **New** Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners upon the **review** of information submitted which alleged that one week following respondent's last visit to **patient** C. at a **nursing home**, the patient had allegedly been found semicomatose, dehydrated and suffering from renal **failure**. It was alleged that Dr. Azelis had failed to appropriately manage patient C., in that although the patient was previously treated for pneumonia by another physician in respondent's practice, and despite notes in **the** records regarding medications, respondent **was** not aware the patient had pneumonia, failed to review the patient's medications, failed to order appropriate tests, was not in

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**

communication with other physicians in his practice who had treated the **patient** and **failed** to contact the **patient's** family. These actions **were** said to **constitute** repeated negligence, thus providing grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(d). Dr. Azelis provided information that **he** would have **managed the patient** differently had he known the patient had recently suffered from pneumonia, acknowledged he **did not make sufficient** attempts to reach the family of the **patient**, and that communications were lacking between the physicians in his practice and insufficient between the nursing home and physicians in the practice. Respondent is no longer **seeing** patients in the nursing home.

The Board having **considered** the aforesaid information, and **having** found more than one instance of negligence based on the allegations above; and the parties being **desirous** of resolving this matter without the necessity of further formal proceedings, **respondent** having waived any right to a hearing in this matter; and the Board finding that the within Order is adequately protective of the public health and that good cause exists for its entry;

IT IS ON THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August 2004,

**ORDERED:**

1. Respondent is hereby **REPRIMANDED** for negligence involving repeated failures to **appropriately** manage the patient.

2. Respondent is hereby **assessed** civil **penalties** in the amount of \$2,500 which he shall pay contemporaneously with tendering of a

signed copy of this Order, by **certified** check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey.

3. Respondent is advised to and shall ensure that physicians in his practice are aware of the importance of communicating to other physicians in the group who cover nursing home patients regarding the condition of the patients at the Nursing home.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS  
By: Glenn Farrell  
Glenn Farrell, Esq. Vice President

I have read the above Order  
and I **understand** and agree to  
abide by its terms.

Arunas E. Azelis  
Arunas E. Azelis, M.D.

The above Order is **approved**  
as to Form and Entry

Rudolph Socey, Esq.  
Rudolph Socey, Esq.  
Attorney for Arunas Azelis, M.D.